

Post 8/15/68

Klan Chief's Conviction On Contempt Is Upheld

The contempt-of-Congress conviction of Ku Klux Klan Imperial Wizard Robert W. Shelton was upheld yesterday by the U.S. Court of Appeals here.

Shelton was sentenced to serve one year in jail and pay a fine of \$1000 for his October, 1965, refusal to produce Klan records and documents at a hearing before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Shelton, 38, lives in Tuscaloosa, Ala. His official title is Imperial wizard of the United Klans of America, Inc., the

largest Klan organization in the country.

The Court rejected Shelton's claim that his conviction should be reversed because the House did not formally authorize an investigation of the Klan. Both Senior Judge Charles Fahy, who wrote the Court's opinion, and Chief Judge David L. Bazelon and Judge J. Skelly Wright who joined in a concurring opinion, denied that their judgment could be construed as giving the House Committee the power to subpoena membership lists of political organizations.